



Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

Tony Evers, Governor | Mary M. Kolar, Secretary

March 27, 2021

Dear King Members, Friends, and Family:

Over the past several days, we've truly enjoyed welcoming back family and friends for in-room visits. Even though we are all wearing masks, I can tell there are smiles under there.

Today, we have had one member test positive for COVID-19. There are currently two active cases (one member, one employee) on campus.

Unfortunately, **we must suspend visits at Ainsworth Hall** effective immediately. As always, ***we strongly encourage members and families to communicate when planning a visit to ensure that the member's residential unit isn't on restrictions***, which may occur for reasons besides COVID-19. Family and friends can also call the unit to verify.

Per the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), when a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified, a facility should immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation until at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed. We will get testing scheduled as soon as possible in hopes of being able to resume visits for residents in units with no COVID-19 cases. We continue to adhere to the CMS guidance on this issue while also maintaining our strict infection prevention and control practices.

This new case of coronavirus underscores the need to continue to exercise caution and to get vaccinated when eligible. Our facility must meet CMS standards including a low community positivity rate, limited facility (staff and member) positive cases, and a high vaccination rate in order to be able to have in-room visits. Please continue to stay home as much as possible, wear a mask when out, remain six feet away from others, and frequently wash your hands.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy Servatius, Commandant